

In the United States Patent Office

In re Application:

Serial No: 09/676,453
Filed: 10/02/2000
Inventor: Bassi et al.
Examiner: CINTINS, IVARS C
Art Unit: 1724
Docket no. UWO3US

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The Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks,
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia
22313-1450 U.S.A.

Dear Sir:

AMENDMENT

In response to the Action of May 12, 2003 please amend this application as follows

In the disclosure

Please amend the paragraph (as amended) beginning page 2 line 21 and the following paragraph as follows

Broadly the present invention relates to a fluidized bed system comprising a first fluidized bed, ~~said fluidized bed being a conventional fluidized bed~~; means to feed solids into said first fluidized bed adjacent to a first end of said first fluidized bed and means to feed a first fluid into said first fluidized bed adjacent to a second end of said first fluidized bed, said second end being remote from said first end so that said solids and said first fluid flow in counter current, a second fluidized bed, ~~said second fluidized bed being an entraining fluidized bed~~ wherein a means for introducing solids and a means for introducing a second fluid into said second bed are both adjacent to the one end of said second fluidized bed so that said solids and said second fluid introduced into said second bed flow concurrently through said second bed from said one end toward another end of said second fluidized bed remote from said one end, first means connecting said first fluidized bed to said second fluidized bed adjacent to said second end of said first fluidized bed and said one end of said second fluidized bed and said first means connecting including said means to feed solids into said second fluidized bed, and second means connecting said first and said second fluidized beds adjacent said first end of said first bed and said other end of said second fluidized bed, ~~[said first means connecting being adapted to form a hydraulic seal between said first and second fluidized beds]~~ and said second means connecting including said means to feed solids into said first fluidized bed.

~~Preferably said first and said second means connecting being adapted to form a hydraulic seal between said first and second fluidized beds~~